

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 IO-11 AID-05 ACDA-10 INRE-00

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2270

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0113

FOR EMBASSY CAPETOWN AND EMBASSY PRETORIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GY, CU, AO

SUBJECT: GOG GIVES OFFICIAL RECOGNITION TO MPLA

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 0085 (NOTAL) B) GEORGETOWN 0007

1. AS PROMISED IN REF A AND AS FOLLOW-UP TO PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM'S
EARLIER ANNOUNCEMENT
OF HIS FULL SUPPORT FOR THE MPLA ANGOLAN FORCES (REF B) THE GOG
HAS NOW GIVEN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION TO THE MPLA.

2. IN A STATEMENT ISSUED JANUARY 17 BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, THE GOG DECLARED::

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BEGIN QUOTE:

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOVT OF GUYANA HAS DECIDED TO RECOGNISE WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT THE GOVT OF ANGOLA FORMED BY THE REPS OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA).

THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER OF GUYANA TO ZAMBIA HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO COMMUNICATE THIS DECISION TO THE GOVT OF ANGOLA. IN RECOGNISING THE MPLA AS THE GOVT OF ANGOLA, THE GOVT OF GUYANA TOOK FULL NOTE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF ANGOLA AND THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS ON ANGOLAN SOIL FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE FORCES OF THE FNLA AND UNITA. THE GOVT OF GUYANA TOTALLY OPPOSED SUCH INTERVENTION AND REGARDS IT AS A BLATANT ATTEMPT BY SOUTH AFRICA TO SPREAD ITS POLICY OF RACISM AND APARTHEID.

GUYANA AS A MATTER OF NATIONAL POLICY IS UNAPOLOGETICALLY OPPOSED TO SUCH A POLICY AND FINDS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT, IN SUCH A CONTEXT, ANY COUNTRY OF GROUPS THAT ARE IN ALLIANCE WITH SOUTH AFRICA ON THIS MATTER.

IN MAKING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RECALLS THAT GUYANA HAD ORIGINALLY DECIDED TO SUPPORT THE DECISION OF THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) FOR A GOVT OF NATIONALITY IN ANGOLA WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS MPLA, FNLA AND UNITA. RECENT EVENTS IN ANGOLA, HOWEVER, HAVE CALLED THIS DECISION INTO QUESTION AND THE GOVT OF GUYANA DECIDED TO AWAIT THE DECISION OF THE OAU AT ITS MEETING CONVENED A FEW DAYS AGO TO EXAMINE THE CRISIS IN ANGOLA OCCASIONED IN PART BY THE REFUSAL OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS THEMSELVES TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A GOVT. THIS ATTEMPT BY THE OAU WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT RECENTLY THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS HELD A MASS RALLY AT SOPHIA TO PERMIT THE PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE ANGOLAN ISSUE ON THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION. THE PUBLIC REACTION TO SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT THEN AND THE GOVT'S ASSESSMENT OF THE TOTAL GUYANESE RESPONSE TO THIS ISSUE HAVE DEMONSTRATED QUITE CLEARLY THAT ALL POLITICAL PARTIES ARE UNITED IN THEIR OPPOSITION. IT IS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND

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THAT THE GOVT OF GUYANA MADE ITS DECISION TO RECOGNISE THE MPLA.

END QUOTE
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